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## Bristow father moving from superfund site

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By Janna Clark

**BRISTOW, Okla.** — New developments in an investigation impacting the health of people in Bristow.

For months FOX2323 has been investigating what is making people sick. New test results from the Environmental Protection Agency are in.

The EPA said it found extremely high levels of lead in the soil in a family's backyard and the father told me has no choice but to get his family out of there.

"He's saying goodbye to his 10 acres in Bristow.

"It was mine. I did things to do it. And I was proud of it, kept it up nice," said Stephen Lane.

He told FOX23 it was his dream place, now he's moving out.

"We found a rent house we're going to rent for a couple years," he said. His family didn't want to leave.

"I don't like it. This is where my family's grown up, my boys since they were born. This is home to them," he said.

Lane and his wife wanted to raise his boys in Bristow, Camden, 6, and Nolan, 3.

"We all know why I moved," said Lane.

He told FOX23 he felt like he had to move because of black sludge oozing up in his backyard.

"When I first saw it I thought someone changed their oil and dumping it out there," he said.

The EPA put up a fence and named his neighborhood a superfund site because decades ago oil companies dumped oil byproducts there.

Now EPA documents said it's concerned about contaminants: hydrocarbons and lead.

In December, the EPA started digging on Lane's land, dozens of holes, looking for lead. Workers found it.

Lane showed FOX23 the test results. The EPA's letter says the "action level for lead in soil is "400 parts per million."

One sample showed 900 and another 5,850. More than 14 times the limit.

"I was shocked the number was as high as it was," he said.

He's not shocked about the lead. A few months ago, a doctor tested his boys. Camden's blood test showed high levels of lead that could cause "adverse health effects."

"It had to be scary to see those test results," said Clark.

"Very scary," said Lane.

It made sense though -- high levels of lead in his son's blood and in the soil too.

"It's Captain Obvious kind of thing. It shows you right there. There's lead in your dirt - a bunch of it," said Lane.

The EPA document highlights in red where they found it: between the shop Lane was building and the EPA's fence. The exact spot his boys played all the time.

"When I was in the shop they'd play all around this," he said.

When FOX23 was there crews saw Camden playing there too.

So as hard as it was emotionally and financially, his family walked away.

"I said we're leaving we're not going to chance our kids... the health of my kids, family is first and foremost," said Lane.

Lane wants the government to make it right.

"Because this was caused it wasn't something that just happened, it was caused. (I'm) mad, upset more than anything. It affects young innocent kids who had nothing to do with it," said Lane.

They got the boys' blood tested again and now, since they moved, Camden's blood test came back normal.

Now the EPA wants to set up a meeting with Lane to talk about the test results and what to do next.

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